

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR



STATE OF MICHIGAN
GOVERNOR'S TRAFFIC SAFETY
ADVISORY COMMISSION
LANSING

ROBERT MORRIS
CHAIR

Minutes of the Meeting held October 27, 2006
8:30 – 10:30 a.m.
4000 Collins Road, Lansing, Michigan

MEMBERS PRESENT

Robert Morris, Chair
Michael Prince
Linda Scarpetta
Ron Wilson
F/Lt. Thad Peterson,
Pamela Hall
Sheriff Al Byam
Steven Puuri
Chief David Stamm

REPRESENTING

Office of the Governor
Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP)
Department of Community Health (MDCH)
Department of State (DOS)
Department of State Police (MSP)
Office of Services to the Aging (OSA)
Local Representative – Michigan Sheriff's Association
Local Representative – County Road Commission Association
Local Representative – Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police

STAFF

Deb Sonnenberg

MEMBERS ABSENT

John Friend
Dwight Sinila

Department of Transportation (MDOT)
Department of Education (MDE)

ACTION TEAM CHAIRS

Heather Hockanson
F/Lt. Thad Peterson
Gary Bubar
Homer Smith

MDCH, Occupant Protection Action Team
MSP, Motorcycle Safety Action Team
AAA-Michigan, Young Driver Action Team
MADD-Michigan, Impaired Driving Action Team

GUESTS

Tom Bruff
Calvin Johnson
Sandy Liddle
Syd Smith
Jack Benac
David Wallace
Sharon Gregory
Eric Bombery
Michael Irwin
Fred Bueter
Lawrence Hummel
Bob Felt
Deirdre Thompson
Jim Culp
Sandy Eyre
Anne Readett
Debbie Savage
Steve Schreier
Alicia Sledge

REPRESENTING

SEMCOG
SEMCOG
Financial & Insurance Services
MSP-Criminal Justice Information Center (CJIC)
Michigan Department of Information Technology (MDIT)
Prosecuting Attorney Association of Michigan (PAAM)
Genesee County Metro Planning Commission
WATS
Michigan Center for Truck Safety (MCTS)
Department of State (DOS)
Van Buren County Road Commission
MDOT-Office of Communications
MDOT-Traffic and Safety
MDOT
OHSP
OHSP
OHSP
OHSP
OHSP

Robert Morris, Governor's Office • Michael Prince, Office of Highway Safety Planning • Linda Scarpetta, Community Health
Dwight Sinila, Education • Anne Corgan, State • F/Lt. Thad Peterson, State Police • John C. Friend, Transportation •
Pamela Hall, Office of Services to the Aging • Sheriff Allen Byam, Local Representative
Steven Puuri, Local Representative • Chief David Stamm, Local Representative

The meeting was called to order by chair Robert Morris. Roll call of GTSAC members and introduction of new Executive Secretary Deborah Sonnenberg completed.

Public Comment/Announcement Items

No public comment.

Approval of August 25, 2006 Meeting Minutes

Ron Wilson moved the minutes be accepted with the one change indicated by Heather Hockanson. Chief David Stamm seconded the motion which was passed unanimously.

Reports/Updates

➤ Chair Report – Robert Morris

Mr. Morris advised the State of Michigan Strategic Highway Safety Plan is completed and available on the GTSAC web site. He is very pleased with what is presented in the document and that the EMS component is a huge issue and deserves to be a part of the GTSAC. This document demonstrates just what the GTSAC is all about and everyone is encouraged to share/provide it at other meetings they attend.

Chair Morris announced that this was Commissioner Ron Wilson's last GTSAC meeting. Mr. Wilson has been an active member and will continue to be the power behind the Motorcycle Safety Task Force. Ms. Anne Corgan from the Department of State has been designated by Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land to be his replacement.

Legislative Report – Sgt. Matt Bolger

In Sergeant Bolger's absence, the Legislative report document was distributed to all for review.

GTSAC Commissioner Update

➤ Community Health – Linda Scarpetta

Linda Scarpetta reported on their CDC Booster Seat Project. The statewide direct observation of booster seat use done in 2004 by the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute (UMTRI) will be repeated this summer. A statewide telephone survey to determine barriers to booster seat use will also be repeated in 2007. The package of Child Passenger Safety bills may go up for a full floor vote when the Senate reconvenes after the election. If a booster seat bill is passed, the state may be eligible for incentive funding from NHTSA. A child passenger safety educational video has been released. The video illustrates the basics of child passenger safety for use in doctor offices, hospitals, and other locations for the general public.

➤ Education – Dwight Sinila

No report

➤ State – Ron Wilson

Mr. Wilson reported on the new Drivers Education Provider & Instructor Act (DEPIA). From recommendations of Secretary Land's Driver Education Advisory Committee, the new act will provide more consistent statewide training with a model curriculum based on nationally recognized standards. The model will also include improved instructor preparation including a practicum and more consistent oversight of program providers for consumers.

➤ State Police – F/Lt. Thad Peterson

Field Updates are now available on the MSP Traffic Services website www.michigan.gov/msp-traffic. This publication provides information on current legal, traffic safety, training information.

➤ Transportation – John Friend

No report

➤ Office of Services to the Aging (OSA) – Pamela Hall

Office of Services to the Aging continues to look at senior mobility options. There are several programs we are looking to fund and implement that will increase driver safety awareness for older adults in Michigan.

OHSP – Michael Prince

The results of the most recent safety belt direct observation survey conducted in September indicate that Michigan's safety belt use rate is 94.3 percent.

The 10th annual Drive Safely Work Week Campaign took place October 2-6, 2006. Michigan NETS kicked-off the week with a press conference that took place at the UPS distribution center in Wyoming on Monday. The highlight of the press conference included special recognition of the first female UPS driver from the Michigan District to be inducted into their Circle of Honor. This honor is bestowed on UPS employees who have maintained 25 consecutive years of crash free driving.

The following week, the 3rd annual Drive Safely to Wayne State University campaign was kicked-off during a press conference on WSU's campus. This event was followed by two additional days of outdoor exhibits that included AAA Michigan, Wayne State's Transportation Research Group, MADD, a driving simulator, several crashed vehicles including a heavily damaged motorcycle, and information on crashes and other safety information.

OHSP was contacted by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) earlier this year advising they had been asked by the U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging to evaluate federal and state initiatives to promote safety of older drivers. As part of their engagement, they visited Michigan to assess state-level plans, programs, and initiatives related to older driver safety. Their research has shown that Michigan is one of the leading states in planning for and implementing specific policies and programs related to older driver safety.

OHSP is moving forward in planning the 2007 Traffic Safety Summit. A wide variety of submissions for workshops and general session topics were received. Since the Summit has been extended an extra day next year, OHSP has been able to incorporate nearly all of the suggestions received. If anyone has a group that wants to receive the Summit information, please get those names and addresses to Anne Readett of OHSP.

The March 2007 Summit will conclude with the annual GTSAC Traffic Safety Awards Luncheon. Requests for nominations will be sent out in a few days and are due by December 1. These awards are selected by a committee made up of representatives of the GTSAC member agencies. Debbie Savage from OHSP will assemble the committee the first part of December to select the award winners and have recommendations for the Commissioners to approve at the December meeting. Please e-mail the name of your selection committee representative, along with contact information, to Debbie at savaged@michigan.gov no later than Wednesday, November 15. A copy of the award nomination form was provided in the meeting packets.

OHSP is pleased to present the final printed copy of Michigan's Strategic Highway Safety Plan. Two copies were provided to each GTSAC Commissioner; one for each Commissioner and one for their department director. OHSP will also mail two copies of the plan to the Action Team chairs and include a copy of the plan in the Traffic Safety Summit meeting packet. Additional copies may be obtained by contacting the OHSP office.

➤ **Local Representation – Steven Puuri**

Mr. Puuri attended the County Road Association of Michigan (CRAM) meeting on September 5, 2006. An Engineers Workshop will be held February 20-21, 2007, in Houghton Lake. Suggestions for workshops and agenda topics are being accepted by CRAM.

➤ **Local Representation – Chief David Stamm**

Genesee County has been ranked number one in fatal car-deer crashes as reported in the Fatal Crash Facts. The MACP Conference is scheduled for January 31 through February 2, 2007. Registration information is on the MACP web site and in their September/October newsletter.

➤ **Local Representation – Sheriff Al Byam**

The STOPPED program (Sheriff's Telling Our Parents & Promoting Educated Drivers,) has gone out to 26 counties so far with 52 counties being the goal. Secretary of State branch offices have brochures that provide information about the program and the directions to receive a special decal to be placed on the driver's side windshield. If a police officer stops a tagged vehicle with a teen driver for any reason, without a parent in the vehicle, the parents will receive a letter telling them where and when the stop occurred, how many people were in the vehicle, and if a citation was issued.

Action Team Reports

➤ Occupant Protection – Heather Hockanson

Ms. Hockanson provided an update on the Child Passenger Safety (CPS) 2006-2010 Action Plan (handout provided.) The purpose of the CPS Plan is to reduce deaths, injuries, and disabilities to children from motor vehicle crashes. The Plan outlines seven areas of focus. A Technician Retention committee was formed to develop a plan to train and retain CPS technicians, and to develop a shortened CPS training program for law enforcement. OHSP worked with MDCH to develop a roll call video for law enforcement which provided the basics in child restraint use. The committee is working to get hospitals to develop a discharge policy which would mandate approved occupant restraint equipment be in the transportation vehicle before releasing a child. The MDCH is working with UMTRI on a study to tack booster seat use of children ages 4-8.

➤ Motorcycle Safety – F/Lt. Thad Peterson/Ron Wilson

Ron Wilson reported that several training bikes were replaced this year and hopes to replace more in the future. A new poster about sharing the road with motorcycles has been distributed at Welcome Centers and SOS branch offices. Four new motorcycle skills training programs are now available and open for the public and 40 new instructors have been trained. One of Secretary Lands' initiatives is to encourage motorcyclists to obtain a motorcycle endorsement on their license.

A new Motorcycle Advisory Committee has been established by the DOS to advise their department and Secretary Land on policy matters and legislative initiatives the committee feels would benefit motorcycle safety.

F/Lt. Thad Peterson reported the MSP Traffic Services Section has recently updated the motorcycle helmet legality web page at, www.michigan.gov/novelty-helmets. A new page entitled *How to Recognize a Novelty Helmet* has also been added with photographs and information to assist law enforcement and motorcycle riders with making a reasonable determination whether or not a helmet is approved for use in Michigan. F/Lieutenant Peterson displayed a general public video that was developed to promote motorcycle awareness among vehicle drivers.

The Traffic Services Section is also in the process of collecting data on motorcycle traffic crash injuries and fatalities. Beginning January 2007, MSP troopers will complete a newly developed UD-10 supplemental motorcycle crash reporting form (UD-10MC) to enable information to be captured on motorcycle crashes. This was developed as a two-year pilot program in hopes that the data will provide a more concrete understanding of the dynamics in motorcycle crashes. Ultimately, the plan is to expand the program for all enforcement officer use. Many computer program hurdles must be overcome before this can occur.

Mike Prince reported the results of a study OHSP commissioned UMTRI to complete on older motorcycle drivers should be released in a few months. He anticipates the report to have very interesting information.

➤ Young Drivers – Gary Bubar

Novice Driver Subcommittee Report (reference GTSAC 10/27/06 handout)

This committee is researching driver education programs for drivers 18 years of age and older who do not fall under the graduated driver licensing requirements. Findings show that more people are waiting until they are 18 years old or older to apply for a driver license. If this delay is related to driver education costs is unknown.

Mr. Bubar stated that teen driving deaths is now being recognized as a health hazard by the Center for Disease Control and that the CDC has identified reducing motor-vehicle related injuries and deaths among adolescents as a national priority. Michigan is ahead of the curve of states in driver education. In June, the State and Territorial Injury Prevention Directors Association, in collaboration with the CDC, convened a special roundtable of traffic safety and other national partners to focus on strategies for the prevention of adolescent-related motor vehicle crashes and their resulting deaths and injuries.

Mr. Bubar recognized Dianne Perukel and the work of the OHSP Communication Section for their assistance in the development of the GDL information card to assist law enforcement. The card can be seen at, paamtrafficsafety.com and soon on OHSP's web site.

➤ **Impaired Driving – Homer Smith**

Impaired Driving Action Team is focusing on formulating a mission addressing issues to reduce alcohol abuse and drunk driving and standardizing data records. Agencies are doing lots of good things on their own. Impaired driving enforcement kicks off December 12 for MADD's Red Ribbon, Tie One On. For ribbons call (517) 487-6233.

Presentations

➤ SEMCOG Data Resource Center Demonstration – Tom Bruff, SEMCOG

Tom Bruff presented SEMCOG's comprehensive crash data analysis that is available on their web site. To access the web tool, go to www.semcoog.org and click on the Data Resource Center icon. At present, the Data Resource Center contains traffic crash data and maps of information covering seven counties in Southeast Michigan with plans to grow and include rail data sets and air data sets. Mr. Bruff explained how this information would be a great resource for planners, engineers, the public, and news agencies. Handouts provided: 9/8/06 SEMCOG News Release and August 2006 publication *2005 Southeast Michigan Traffic Crash Facts*.

GTSAC Administrative Items

Next Meeting is December 15, 2006, in the Collins Centre Presentation Room.

Meeting Adjourned 10:35 a.m.